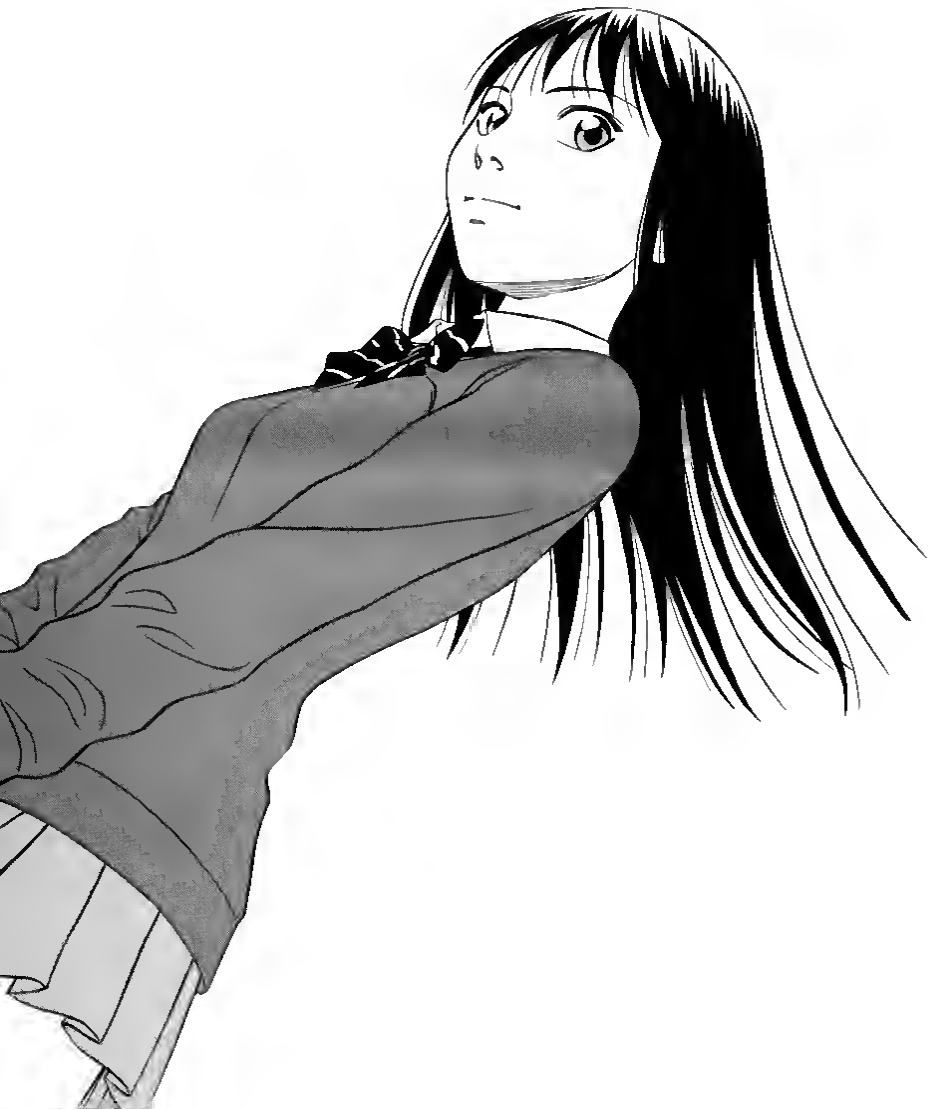
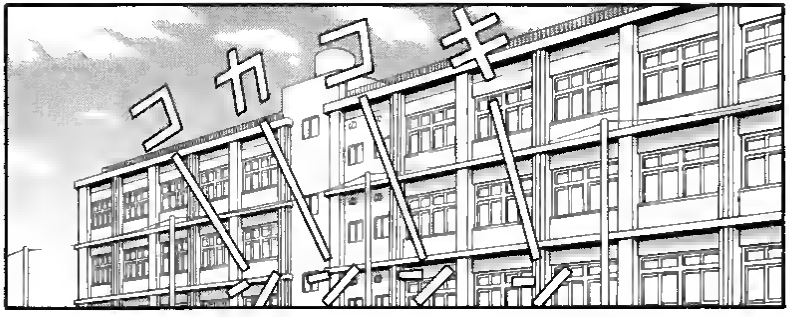
Chapter 57

Oita is in Kyushu!

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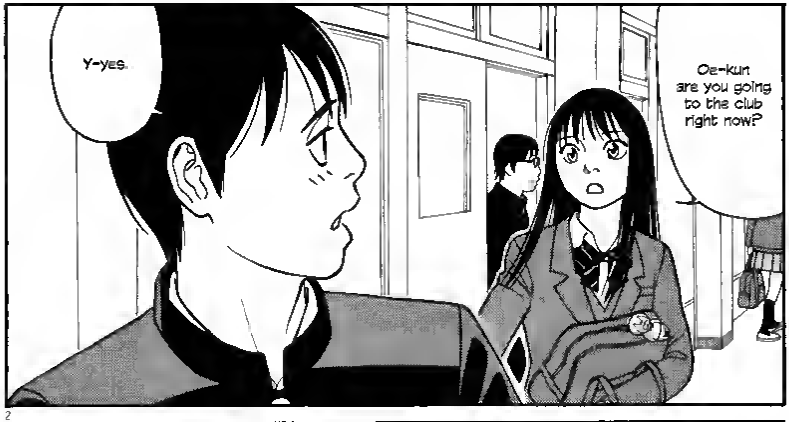
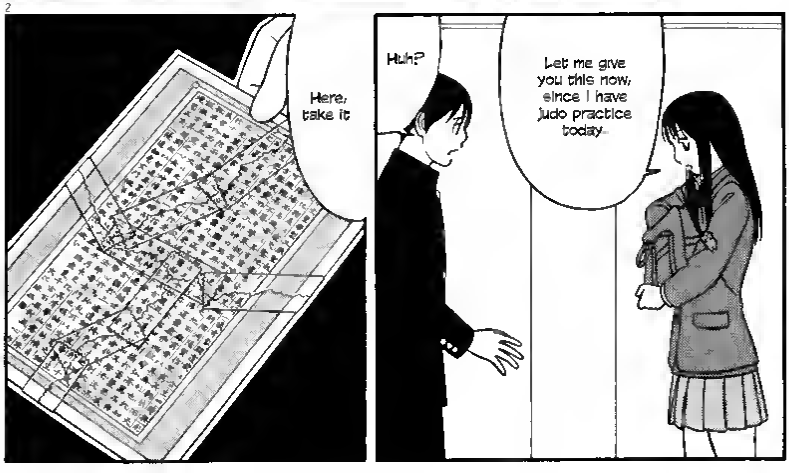

Y-yes.
Oe-kun are you going to the club right now?

2


Here, take it
Huh?
Let me give you this now, since I have judo practice today.

Since you no longer have the original, you should take care of that picture.
If you submit a piece to the Koshien of calligraphy, you don't get it back right?
Wh-why?
This is the picture I ripped up...
Mochizuki-san is saying such nice things...
Because after all you spent a lot of time working on it.
Hey Oe
You're right Mochizuki-san. I'll take good care of it.
T-Thank you.

Ah!
Huh?
I printed another copy for you
Here is the picture you asked for last night over the phone
This is?
WAH!
Sensei, that's
Y-Yes
He called you last night and asked for this?
He asked me if I could reprint it, because he kind of lost the picture of the written copy he made for the "Koshien of calligraphy"

Turn
if it's a digital picture then you can always make copies with a printer...
Yes, that's right
Huh? So you took a picture of it with a digital camera!?
GIVE ME BACK THE PICTURE I TAPED UP!
HUH, W-WHY!?
OE-KUN!
5
ALTHOUGH I DIDN'T REALIZE IT WAS A DIGITAL PICTURE, WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME RIGHT AWAY!? DO YOU TAKE ME FOR A FOOL!
I GATHERED THE PIECES OF THAT RIPPED UP PICTURE WITH GOOD INTENTIONS!

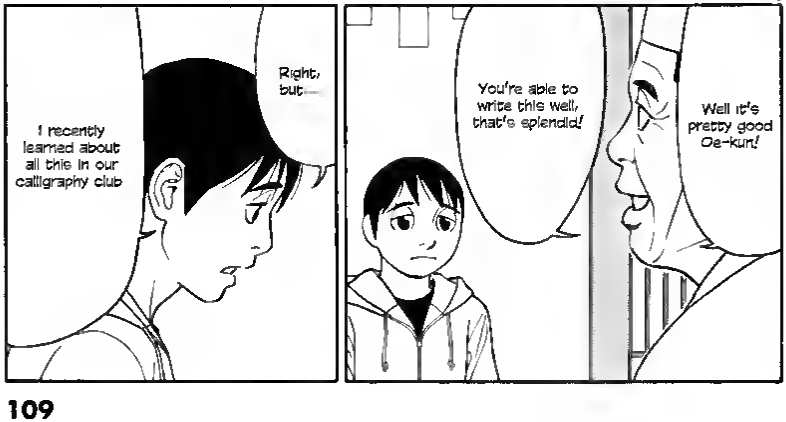
A Few days later--
Oh, Oe-kun!
ガラガラ
Hello--
The shop will take a short break soon right?
Ah, no, that's not...
Yo Mai!
Welcome back.

What is it?
Ah, it's Oe-kun!
ドキッ
Huh?
I'm here to discuss something with you as well sir...
Um...I thought I could help with writing the menu for the "Miyata Retreat"
準備中
SIGN: GETTING READY FOR BUSINESS
I inadvertently thought this was about Mai
What?
Oh that one?
Eh, the menu?

At first I thought making the menu would be simple.
But that was a huge mistake. It was a lot more difficult
Please take a look at this first.
Oh is that so?
This is a piece I wrote one week ago for the culture festival
Baby love
Oh really you wrote this!?
It's good.
It's literally writing kanji, hiragana, and katakana at the same time.
I heard this style is called "kanji-kana mixed calligraphy".

For example, this piece was written with the hiragana similar to the kanji.
However it's not just writing kanji and kana together without thinking, the kanji and kana must be devised to blend together.

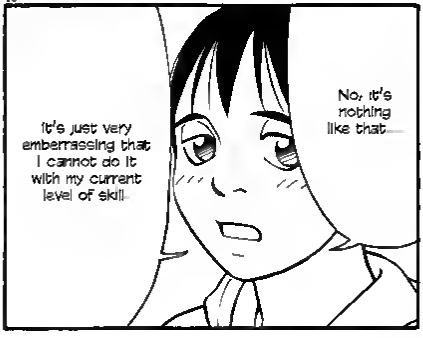
Hm, you're right...
Now that you mention it, they certainly look that way.
Are written to match the kanji, with hard straight lines.
Essentially, the soft, curve-like hiragana

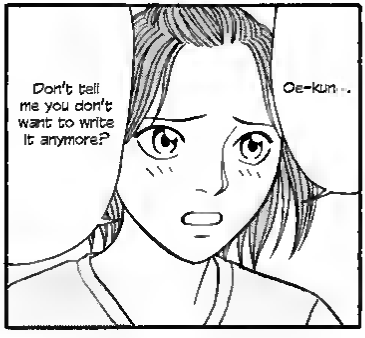

Right, but...
I recently learned about all this in our calligraphy club
You're able to write this well, that's splendid!
Well it's pretty good Oe-kun!

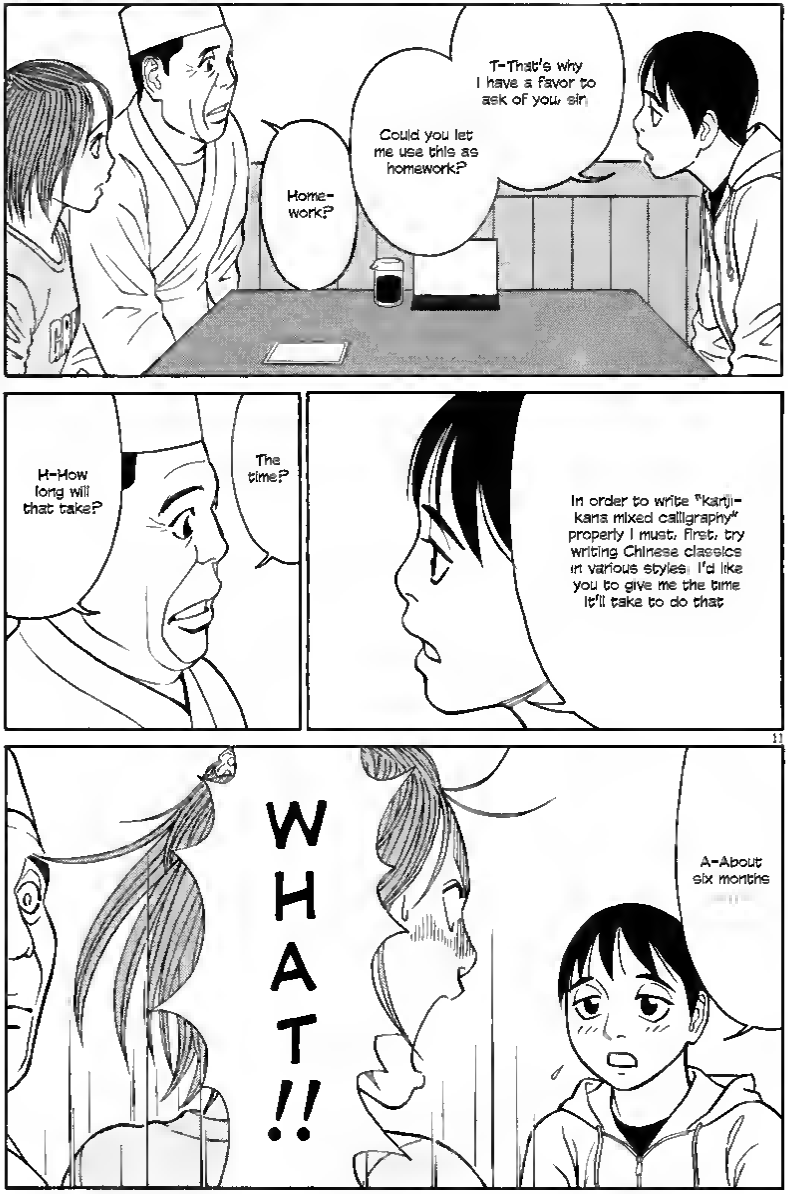
Huh?
Perhaps I was being too arrogant of my ability?
Even though I didn't know anything about "kanji-kana mixed calligraphy", I took on the job of writing this shop's menu.

No need to make such a fuss it's just a menu.
What? Hey whoa hold on.
I'm deeply sorry sir.
It brings me great shame to think it was something that I could simply write myself.

10


It's just very embarrassing that I cannot do it with my current level of skill.
No, it's nothing like that.....


Don't tell me you don't want to write it anymore?
Oe-kun...


T-That's why I have a favor to ask of you, sir.
Could you let me use this as homework?
Home-work?
In order to write "kanji-kana mixed calligraphy" properly I must, first, try writing Chinese classics in various styles. I'd like you to give me the time it'll take to do that
The time?
H-How long will that take?
That scared me.
A-About six months
WHAT!!

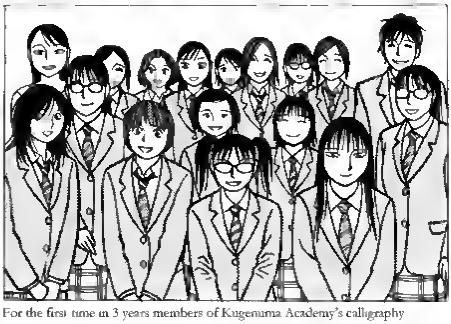
I'm sorry sir.
That Mai, she went upstairs sulking just like that
That's it! I'm really mad this time!
If you'll excuse me, sir.
But yeah he's a little strange
Well, it's Oe-kun. He's not doing it out of ill will, he's just a very honest kid...
He's really a strange guy...
I'll discuss it with Kageyama-sensei, and tomorrow I'll be challenging a new topic!
Okay! So in order for me to write the menu properly,

Newspaper Saturday November 11th, 200x (Heisei 2x) Kanagawa 22

A Few days later--

Kugenuma Academy and Shiromi High School win the excellence award

Koshien of Calligraphy Southern Kanto division



For the first time in 3 years members of Kugenuma Academy's calligraphy club and their adviser Professor Natsuko Kasagi (left back row) win an award

The 17th annual International High School Calligraphy Exhibition called the "Koshien of Calligraphy" in the southern Kanto district division Kugenuma Academy's calligraphy club in the city of Chigasaki along with Shiromi High School in the city of Sagamihara win the excellence award Kugenuma Academy won the distinct runner up award three years ago in the 14th annual exhibition

Prefecture winners

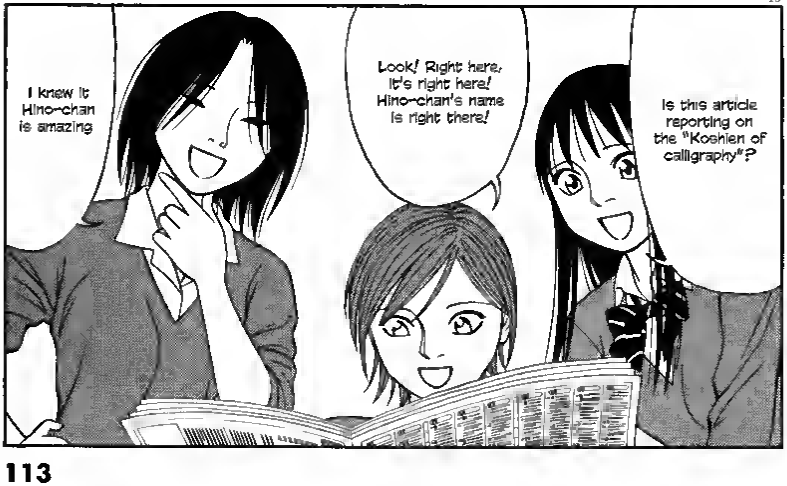
The winners in the prefecture are as follows
<Southen Kanto district> Kugenuma Academy Shimura High School Takamnam Academy Naegam High School Suzun High School
<Ment awards>Yoshimi Hino (Kugenuma Academy) Yuke Kawai (Shiromi High School) Hiromi Hino (Suzun High School)

Yoshimi Hino winner of the ment award was one of the 16 club members of Kugenuma Academy's calligraphy club to win an individual prize The students repeatedly practice by writing "written copies" from Chinese classics they have studied They are very happy that learning the brush strokes of kanji has won them an award

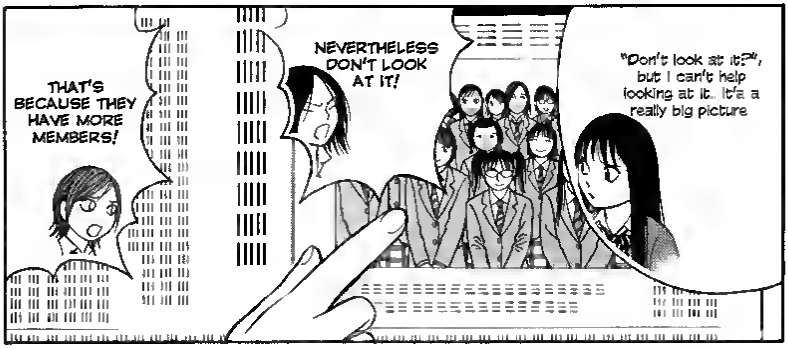
Reform proposal in the field of emergency medicine

Donated blood Interferometry the remainder

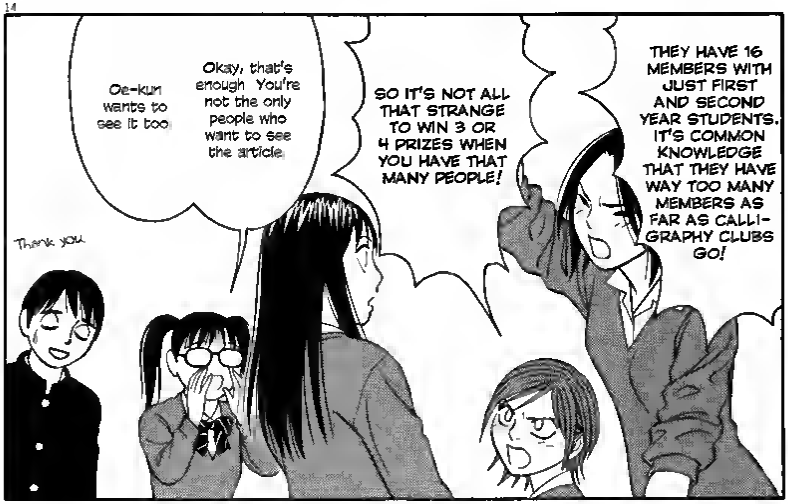
13


I knew it Hino-chan is amazing
Look! Right here, it's right here! Hino-chan's name is right there!
Is this article reporting on the "Koshien of calligraphy"?

You don't have look at that part okay!
They even got this huge picture printed in the paper as well
Even so Kugenuma is amazing


THAT'S BECAUSE THEY HAVE MORE MEMBERS!
NEVERTHELESS DON'T LOOK AT IT!
"Don't look at it!", but I can't help looking at it. It's a really big picture

14


Oe-kun wants to see it too
Okay, that's enough. You're not the only people who want to see the article.
Thank you.
SO IT'S NOT ALL THAT STRANGE TO WIN 3 OR 4 PRIZES WHEN YOU HAVE THAT MANY PEOPLE!
THEY HAVE 16 MEMBERS WITH JUST FIRST AND SECOND YEAR STUDENTS. IT'S COMMON KNOWLEDGE THAT THEY HAVE WAY TOO MANY MEMBERS AS FAR AS CALLIGRAPHY CLUBS GO!

If you find it mortifying, then you should just work much harder next year!
It's exactly as Oe-kun says!
He's amazing, next year I have to work much harder.
Like I thought Teshigawara-kun was also selected
As I recall, Hino-chan, you went to the previous exhibition right?
But if we don't know the level of the submitted pieces, we won't know how hard we should work
You're right
15
I think it's probably around the beginning of February
Hmm let's see.
When do they hold the exhibition for the submitted pieces? Isn't it like at the end of next month?
For starters, we haven't seen that!
Yes I did

WHY THE HELL ARE THE RESULTS AND EXHIBITION DONE SO FAR APART!?
It is November in the story right now
FEBRUARY ...ISN'T THAT THREE MONTHS FROM NOW !?
I-I don't know... Im sorry.

16

So the other one was the Kanagawa edition?
This is the national edition
I can't say that there are female high school students who have the free time to suffer for three months...
Hearing that all the sudden makes my motivation drop...

None of them knew
He doesn't know about Japan's geography
I have no idea where is that
Huh? Umm...
Oita? Where is that? Isn't it in Shikoku?

Oh wow, it says the national prize winners are Bungo High School in the Oita prefecture!

...national ... School ...graphy ...hibitian ...ze winners

...he Koshien of ...y, the international

52 winners of the merit award 142 winners of the workmanship award, 1934 were given the honorable mention award totalling of 2169 students for the third time Bungo High School in the Oita prefecture was awarded the national group prize

The winners' works will be on display in the city of Osaka February 3rd through the 8th

YOUNG SUNDAY COMICS

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とめはねっ！

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KATSUTOSHI KAWAI PRESENTS